

nothing but agitation and madness; but the rigor of the cold increases,—these masqueraders withdraw a little after midnight. On that account these new Apothecaries (they were six of the Elders who bore in silence a great kettle full of that diabolical water, whereof they made all the sick people drink), these physicians [155] of hell, ceased to make their round, because the follies of the young men had ceased. The morrow night it was necessary to satisfy the devil, and begin again, quite afresh. This night was that of Christmas, during which the demon was punctually obeyed.

In consequence thereof, this Prince of wantonness ordered infamous dances and feasts during all those holy days, consecrated to the memory of the infant JESUS, King of purity, and of his dear disciple, the well-beloved for his virginity.

Behold, then, the souls of these poor barbarians possessed by the demon; the truths of our Faith no longer find access to their mind; their affection for us is changed into hatred. This spirit of deceit, whom they honor as the master of their land, having assured them that we alone were the cause of their ruin, the doors of the cabins begin to be closed to our Fathers; the sight of them is dreaded, as if a single one of their looks caused all the children to die; they are held in abomination, and they hardly find any one who tolerates them.

[156] From day to day, their minds become further embittered; the false reports which came from the neighboring nations augment their suspicions, being received as true; and certain tools of the devil confirmed all these slanders,—declaring that they had seen black gowns in a dream,—now without the